

AMENDMENT TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the first full paragraph on page 19 with the following amended paragraph.

The discrete regions are an integral part of surge layer 40. The superabsorbent material discrete regions comprise superabsorbent material fused onto the surge fibers in a way similar to ~~steel~~ steel reinforced concrete. Fig. 5 shows a scanning electron microscope photograph of a ~~discret~~ discrete region showing the superabsorbent material bonded around the surge material fibers. Discrete regions and superabsorbent material cannot be easily separated from surge 40 by shaking or other movement. The movement of surge layer 40 also does not cause migration (movement of detached superabsorbent material) of superabsorbent material.